



BOARD BULLETIN

November 30, 2012

Economic Development Update

Active Projects – The current number of active projects is seventeen (17). This is an increase of six (6) additional projects in the past 30 days. The leads for these projects were generated as follows: two (2) were self-generated by the EDC and four (4) were generated by local or regional allies. In total, the active projects represent a minimum of \$61.5 million in potential investment and over 85 jobs.

One (1) additional project was added to the suspect list during the past 30 days. The lead for this project came from the NC Department of Commerce. The specific investment and job creation associated with the project was not included with the request for proposals.

The EDC staff hosted four (4) site visits in the past 30 days for multiple prospects.

Other Initiatives/Activities –

- The EDC staff met with the new Charlotte Regional Partnership (CRP) staff on Thursday, November 1. A familiarization tour was conducted to help educate and inform the CRP staff about the assets and product available in Stanly County.
- The EDC recently partnered with Duke Energy to conduct an economic development readiness review for Stanly County. The assessment targeted Stanly County's current assets and challenges with respect to available sites, buildings, infrastructure, workforce and transportation. The final report was presented by the consultant, Jeanette Goldsmith, at the Stanly COG meeting in New London on Tuesday, November 27.
- EDC staff will be participating in the annual Chamber of Commerce Board retreat on Friday, December 7.
- The week of December 10, EDC staff will be working with an existing industry specialist from NC Commerce to call on existing companies in Stanly County.
- EDC staff will be attending the Power Generation Trade Show in Orlando, Florida the week of December 10. The energy sector is an identified target for Stanly County and the Charlotte region.

eBook Utilization

The use and popularity of the County's e-book system has continued to increase over the past several months. Over the past six (6) months, an average of 424 e-books were virtually checked out by residents per month. This is an average of 14.1 electronic materials per day. The average use per day during the initial 60 days of the service was 12.2. Thus, virtual use of e-books has increased by 15.5% since early February 2012.

911 Radio Study Update

The 911 Radio Steering Committee met this past week to further discuss the study recommendations and the feedback provided by UASI. The committee is going to seek additional information from VIPER and Rowan County in an effort to better inform the Board of Commissioners as to all of the available options, advantages, disadvantages and associated costs of a new emergency radio system.

The committee is also moving forward with obtaining more specific pricing for the hardware and radio replacement. Given the expense associated with the construction and on-going maintenance of a new system, it is likely staff will recommend some type of cost share formula. The cost share would likely be connected to on-going maintenance of the system and end-user equipment.

The committee also discussed the need to set up meetings with municipal managers and staff to share the preliminary study results, seek their feedback and discuss potential options for financing the system.

Lastly, the committee discussed the fact that a 700/800 MHz system such as UASI, VIPER or Rowan is the only type of system that will address the primary issues of channel availability and interoperability within the region. A new, upgraded, stand-alone VHF system will not address interoperability.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Regular Board Meeting	Monday, December 3
Organizational Meeting	7:00 PM
	Commons Mtg. Room